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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 05184 091130Z

46
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05

OMB-01 DODE-00 /060 W
---------- 056453
P 091054Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7673

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USIAC

USIATTOR IEU, IPS, IOR

E.O. 11652: NA
SUBJ: THE US IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

1. "THE RACE FOR THE INDIAN OCEAN WAS STARTED BY THE UNITED STATES PROCLAIMING IT IMPORTANT TO UNITEF STATES 'GLOBAL INTERESTS'" ACCORDING TO TANJUG CORRESPONDENT BRANKO SAVIC IN COLUMBO WRITING FOR THE TANJUG THIRD WORLD POOL. IN AN ARTICLE NOTABLE PRIMARILY FOR SELECTIVE USE OF FACTS AND LACK OF OBJECTIVITY, THE UNITED STATES IS CAST AS THE MAJOR THREAT TO PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE AREA. THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT BECAUSE OF THE AMERICAN WISH TO INFLUENCE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION, THE GREAT NAVAL POWERS HAVE INCREASED THEIR RIVALRY AND ARE TURNING THE INDIAN OCEAN INTO A NUCLEAR ZONE.

2. THE ARTICLE SERTHER NOTES THAT T O NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT THE COLUMBO CONFERENCE WILL DEMAND THAT THE BIG NAVAL POWERS END THEIR RIVALRY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. AS WE ARE LIKELY TO HEAR MORE DISTORTED VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT
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IN THE NEXT DAYS, WE WILL WANT TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

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TO DO SO WE REQUIRE ASAP A BRIEF UNCLASSIFIED CHRONOLOGY
OF EVENOP LEADING TO THE PRESENT LEVEL OF US AND USSR
INVOLVEMENT IN THE AREA, AS WELL AS A STATEMENT OF THE
CURRENT US POSITION AND OUR INTENTIONS IN THE INDIAN
OCEAN. CATHERMAN

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